

**UNCOVERING THE SECRET OF ADAM LANG AS A FORMER
BRITISH PRIME MINISTER IN ROMAN POLANSKI'S *THE GHOST*
WRITER MOVIE (2010): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**



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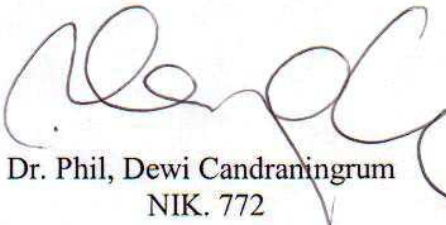
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Pembimbing I

Pembimbing II


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A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

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ABSTRACT

This study is about uncovering the secret of Adam Lang reflected in The Ghost Writer movie. The objective of this study to analyze the movie based on the sociological perspective. This research paper belongs to qualitative research. Data of the research are divided into two, primary and secondary data. The primary data of the research is the movie and the secondary data sources are books, internet, and articles or any information related with the sociological approach. The method to analyze of this data is descriptive analysis. The researcher comes to the conclusion as follows that there is a close relationship between the movie and the social reality of Poland society at the first half of the twentieth century.

Keywords: Secret, Life of Roman Polanski, The Ghost Writer, Sociological analysis

A. Introduction

The Ghost Writer is a story of an unnamed successful British ghost writer; he is called as the ghost. The ghost agrees to complete the memoirs of the former British Prime, Adam Lang. The controversy brings reporters and protesters swarming to the security outside of the island home where Adam Lang is staying with his wife, Ruth, and his personal assistant Amelia Bly. As *The Ghost Writer* works, he uncovers clues suggesting his predecessor may have stumbled on a dark secret concerning and that somehow this information is hidden in the manuscript he left behind of Adam Lang's memoirs.

Actually *The Ghost Writer* is a great movie which showing us how must be everybody do the best for their job no matter what the risk. This great message in the movie based on the humanity where the politician is arbitrarily to the human just for the self importance or group interest. Living in the political circles is unpredictable because the politician's life never is guest. Based on the story of the movie the writer uses the sociological theory as an approach to analyze this movie.

By so doing, the writer gives the title: "Uncovering The Secret of Adam Lang as A Former British Prime Minister In Romans Polanski's *The Ghost Writer* Movie (2010): A Sociological Approach". Based on the background of study, the writer proposed the problem statement of the study is "How Adam Lang secret politics is reflected in Roman Polanski's *The Ghost Writer* (2010) movie? In addition, there are two objectives of the study in this research; firstly, to describe *The Ghost Writer* based on the structural

elements of movie. Secondly to analyze *The Ghost Writer* movie based on a Sociological approach.

Factually there is only one of literature review of this movie which analysis with pragmatic approach by Pandu Wijaya Saputra research, this study was conducted to describe the types of strategies employed by the characters in the Film "*The Ghost Writer*". The research used pragmatic approach with the indirect commands as the scope of the analysis. This research was a descriptive qualitative research with purposive sampling technique. By finding the literature review above, the writer is interested to analyze this movie by using the other perspective that is sociological approach. The sociology of literature is a study based on the sociological perspective to comprehend social phenomena in a certain period of time that are described by the author in his or her literary work. Damono (1984: 2) confirms that the sociology of literature is an approach to literature that considers the social aspects of human being. It means that literature is studied and analyzed based on the sociological perspective. Swingewood (in Laurensen and Swingewood, 1972: 17-21) also divided the sociology of literature into three divisions; first, the sociology of the writer, it is the sociological study of literature, which emphasizes on the production side, particularly to the writer's work. It attempts to study the literary career of the writer and his whole works dealing with his life story and background (writer's biography). Second is sociology of the society. The major sociological study of this subject is tracing the linkage between the literary work and its social background. It focuses on tracking the influence of society and clarifying historical context within the text. And third is sociology of the reader. It is the study in the terms of the influence of the work to the reader. It

attempts to trace the ways in which a work received by its society at a certain historical moment and figure out the reader's response after reading the work

Talk about secret it cannot be separated from sociology. Secret is not known or seen or not meant to be known or seen by others (Manser, 1995: 325). There is a close relationship between literature and sociology. Sociology studies the real life of the human beings in relation to their social, whereas literature is created based on phenomena as social life. Literary work particularly novel can be seen not only as an art with its aesthetic qualities, but also as social manifestation. It is a document that reflects the social condition in a society or a product of these conditions.

B. Research Method

In analyzing Romans Polanski's *The Ghost Writer* Movie (2010), the researcher uses qualitative research to analyze data. This is a library research, which takes the source of the data from words and other writing. The writer divides the data source into two categories; first is primary data source. The primary data is taken from *The Ghost Writer* film and the movies script downloaded from (<http://www.opensubtitles.org/en/subtitles/3641332/The-ghost-writer.htm>). Second is secondary data source. The secondary data source is taken from other sources, which are related to the primary data such as biography of the director, some books of sociological, website about the film and another data related to this research. The method the writer uses to collect data is both documentation by collecting and recording the primary and secondary source, library research by summarizing, paraphrasing and wording. The writer takes the following steps such are: Watching the movie repeatedly in order to get the all scene in the movie. Taking notes of the important

part in primary and secondary data. Classifying the data into some categories and selecting them by rejecting the irrelevant information, this does not Support the topic of the study.

C. Finding and Discussion

1. Findings

This movie is analysed by using sociological analysis and this is the results of analyses by using sociological approach, as follows:

a. Social Aspect

The Ghost Writer movie portrayed the main character unnamed the ghost who is searching the fact due to the issues of his client for writing the memoir of Adam Lang, former British prime minister at the twenty first century. The background of nationalities of *The Ghost* itself is British. The social condition of Poland society was influenced by many factors. At the time Polish faced many changes which automatically changed many aspects of life of its society. It follows the social aspect in America. Polish views that American socially is equal with their society. In both of Polish and American society, they are separated into three social classes. They are upper, middle and lower class. Upper class

The upper class shows when *The Ghost* writer meets Adam Lang in the jet. Adam Lang is high social classes. It is a private jet of Adam Lang. The screenshot shows the upper class of society because it is the time when Adam Lang as former British minister is in his private jet. Another hint which is appearance from this screenshot is the costume of Adam Lang; he uses casual shirt and tie. The middle class shows when *The Fisherman's cove* appears in the movie. It is the place for middle class who want to stop by their activity and the fee for rest in here is just enough for middle class society. When the labours demonstrate in front of Lang's office it shows the lower class of society. They want a justice for Lang, they thought Lang was a liar.

b. Economic Aspect

Poland Economic Growth was favored by relatively rich natural resources for both agriculture and industry. Eastern Europe's largest producer of food, Poland based its sizeable and varied industrial sector on ample coal supplies that made it the world's fourth largest coal producer in the 1970s. The most productive industries, such as equipment manufacturing and food processing, were built on the country's coal and soil resources, respectively, and energy supply still depended almost entirely on coal in the early 1990s. In its efforts to westernize its economy after 1989, Poland relied heavily on expertise and financial support from international financial institutions. Although its substantial hard-currency debt was partially forgiven in 1991, the remains of the communist management system hindered efficient use of foreign capital and discouraged the foreign investment that Poland vigorously sought. Thus, by 1992 what was initially planned as a brief period of painful economic adjustment had become a much longer ordeal that had brought mixed result.

Unfortunately *The Ghost writer* movie does not describe an economic aspect within America and Poland. Both of them have a good economic system.

c. Political Aspect

Since the change to the political system in 1989, Poland has been governed by alternating periods of right and left-oriented governments. Tadeusz Mazowiecki became prime minister in September 1989, leading the country's first democratic government since the end of World War II. The Criminal Code and the Civilian Code regulate the conduct of individuals and companies. The European-style legal system is strongly rooted in rules and regulations established by the National Assembly. Poland has abolished the death penalty and the longest prison sentence is

25 years, with life sentences an option only for crimes of particular gravity. However, because of public anxiety over crime, new laws were passed in 2000 approving stiffer penalties in a number of instances. The Civilian Code regulates contractual agreements and presides over divorce cases. It assigns parental custody and sets alimony payments, which are mandatory for all children up to age 18 and for those aged 18 and over who are still enrolled full-time at school. The amount of alimony is based on parental earnings.

The similarity Political conflict in Poland and The Ghost Writer movie appears in many screenshot. First is when the social media state that Adam Lang attacked by Richard Rycart's accusation. Second, some newspaper shows the news about the ex-premier minister. The issues attack the minister, shows his criminality of war crime. Third, the allegations appear in the press that Lang, when he was Prime Minister he illegally turned over captured terror suspects to the C.I.A for rendition and torture. A former minister from Lang's cabinet even insists that his old boss should be tried by the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

d. Cultural Aspect

A major characteristic feature of Polish art is the dialogue and interaction of cultures. The style of clothing, as well as the manners and customs of the Polish people reflect influences of the East and West. The traditional apparel of the Polish in the 16th and 17th Centuries reveals inspiration from the opulent Eastern ornamental style, with influences of the Islamic culture. The architecture of Polish towns reflects a variety of European styles. Polish art is unique in character and has always reflected the latest trends. Polish literature originated in the 14th Century with pieces written in the Polish vernacular.

Unfortunately *The Ghost Writer* does not describe the culture within United State and Poland.

e. Religious Aspect

Throughout the history of the Polish State, the Roman Catholic Church has played a very important role. Because of the Roman Catholic Church, Poland was able to continue its existence in history. The decision of choosing Roman Catholicism as Poland's first and only religion under the auspices of the Church in the Czech Republic, as opposed to coming under the authority of the Church hierarchy in Germany, allowed Poland to keep its independence and later play an important role in Central Europe. The largest and most important is Catholicism, which is confessed by, according to official data, more than 35 million people, or about 95% of the population. The second largest church in Poland, in size and importance, is the Polish Orthodox Church. Protestant Churches are also numerous in Poland. The largest are the Augsburg-Evangelical and Pentecostals (each has about 100,000 members) followed by the Baptists, Adventists, Methodists and ending with the smallest, the Christian Congregation and Evangelical Congregation 'Zion,' each with 20 members. Moslem and Krishna confessors number about 5,000 members each. And there are only a few practicing Jews left in Poland. Unfortunately the religion act does not appear until the end of this movie.

f. Science and Technology

Poland appeared as a nation around the middle of the 10Th century and experienced its golden age in the 16th century under the Jagiellonian dynasty. During the century that followed, the strengthening of the gentry and internal disorders weakened the nation so much that it was partitioned between Russia, Prussia, and Austria in 1772. Poland constituent itself reflects the desire to encourage scientific creativity. It

gives Poland Congress the power to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited time to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries. This clause formed the basis for Poland patent and copyright systems, whereby creators of original art and technology would get a government granted monopoly, which after a limited period would become free to all citizens, thereby enriching the public domain. *The Ghost Writer* movie shows the science and technology, when Lang attacked by Richard Rycart's in the social media. The other using of science and technology in the movie is the using of newspaper to give information, the using of plane as a transportation of the Prime Minister, and the using of television to present the news.

2. Discussion

Based on the sociological analysis above, the researcher stated that the structural elements of this novel are appropriate with the core of the study using sociological approach although the economic, cultural, and religious aspect is does not covered in the movie.

It is a screenplay that really well-crafted and the dialogues are making their specific marks. However, the most important reason is why this movie is great. It is because of the director himself. The other cast is dominant in supporting the major character such as Ewan McGregor as The Ghost, Pierce Brosnan as Adam Lang, Olivia William as Ruth Lang, and Kim Cattral as Amelia Bly.

The filmmaker controls cinematography qualities shot, not only what is filmed but also how is filmed. This consists of control over three features photographic qualities of shot, the framing shot, and the duration of shot.

The Ghost Writer is a film about secrecy poised as transparency, about superficial facades and hidden truths. One of the earliest scenes of

the film is a close up of gray waves rolling over a dead body. The musical theme song, sound track and music score of this movie appear with a mixing which are created, composed and produced by many kinds of famous classical music classical music by Alexandre Desplat.

The editing used to make a good final movie. There is a little editing in *The Ghost Writer* movie. The editor uses the effect in the scene where Adam Lang is shot in his forehead

The ghost Writer movie reflects the condition of Poland society. It follows the social aspect in America. Polish views that American socially is equal with their society. In both of Polish and American society, they are separated into three social classes. They are upper, middle and lower class. Upper class.

The political condition in *The Ghost Writer* shows that the similarity issues sometimes attack the politician or the government unexpected the prime minister such as the allegations appear in the press that Lang, when he was Prime Minister he illegally turned over captured terror suspects to the C.I.A for rendition and torture. A former minister from Lang's cabinet even insists that his old boss should be tried by the International Criminal Court in The Hague.

The last screen which is shown in *The Ghost Writer* movie is the use of social media Lang attacked by Richard Rycart's. Poland and United State both are growing the technology and science. This clause formed the basis for Poland patent and copyright systems, whereby creators of original art and technology would get a government granted monopoly, which after a limited period would become free to all citizens, thereby enriching the public domain. The other using of science and technology in the movie is the using of newspaper to give information, the using of plane as a transportation of the Prime Minister, and the using of television to present the news.

D. Conclusion

The study comes to the following conclusion, first based on the structure analysis it can be concluded that in this movie conveys the message that work as a professional must be done until the task is done. Second, based on the sociological analysis, it can be concluded that there is a close relationship between the movie and the social reality of Poland society at the first half of the twentieth century.

In the movie, it reflects some aspect of United State society from social, economic, political, religious, and cultural, to the development of science and technology which is reflected Poland society. The dominant aspect the movie deliver the message that politician always has a secret which sometime it is illegal and relate with a crime which have to uncover based on humanity.

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